courses, officers may achieve their master of science degree in a discipline related to their FA. As officers progress through their careers, they may receive other FA and Army-unique educational opportunities based on their performance of duties, educational background and the Army's needs.

The Army is looking at restructuring CGSOC to provide resident education for officers selected for major. This program would consist of a common-core curriculum coupled with a masters degree program tailored for FA 24 and FA 53 officers.

## **Optional training**

At different times during their careers, Signal officers get the opportunity to further develop leadership and combat functional skills in the three-week Airborne course and/or nine-week Ranger course. Currently a Signal officer must be slated for a Ranger assignment to be eligible for the Ranger course. Officers are also eligible to attend the Special Forces

Qualification Course, Air Assault Course and/or Jumpmaster Course when assigned to units that use this specialized training.

## Functional training

All Signal officers are eligible to attend more training to prepare them for jobs requiring extensive knowledge of specific systems or disciplines. Some

of the courses available are:

• Battlefield Spectrum Management Course - 10 weeks of training designed to teach future frequency spectrum managers a variety of skills required for allocating and regulating management of the radio frequency spectrum.



A Signal officer refreshes her skills in training at the Signal Center.

- Joint Task Force Systems Course nine weeks of training on planning and managing communications-computer support networks for joint warfighters.
- Director of Information Management Operations Officer Course two weeks of training on the six functional areas of information management as they pertain to systems within garrison, sustaining base, power projection and split-based operations.
- RBECS/Joint CEOI Course two weeks of training on standardized instructions and associated computer hardware required to manage the joint battlefield electronic CEOI system used in joint operations.
- Joint Tactical Automated Switching Network Supervisors Course
   nine weeks of training on designing, managing and troubleshooting joint tactical communications switched networks.
- Mobile Subscriber Equipment Systems Control Center Operator Course - five weeks of training on operating and maintaining the MSE system control center effectively.
- Standardized Communications Security Custodian Course - two weeks of certification training on safeguarding, accounting and controlling communications-security material.
- Tactical Signal S-3 Course two weeks of training that prepares people for assignment as the S-3 or member of the S-3 staff within a tactical Signal organization.

1LT Cora Henry Reserve Officers' Training Corps University of South Carolina Bachelor of arts in sociology Assistant brigade personnel

officer
Headquarters and
Headquarters Company, 93d
Signal Brigade
Joint Task Force Aguila
(Hurricane Mitch disaster
relief), El Salvador

"It was an excellent mission. Even though we're Signal, we had the opportunity to go on some food-distribution missions. El Salvador wasn't hit as badly as Nicaragua and Guatemala, but there were some villages flooded out and some families experiencing tragic conditions. I realized that everything we did there was the same as we do when we go to the field. We really do train as we fight. It was like clockwork."



1LT Cora Henry makes friends on a food-distribution mission with El Salvadoran children left orphaned by Hurricane Mitch.

The Signal experience